

**Abstract:**

The invention relates to antimicrobial copolymers obtained by copolymerizing (component I) aliphatically unsaturated monomers which have been functionalized by

5 means of an ester group and at least singly functionalized by means of a tertiary amino group with (component II) another aliphatically unsaturated monomer which has been at least singly functionalized by means of an amino group, where components I and II are different from one another.

10 The copolymers of the invention are prepared by copolymerizing exclusively components I and II.

The antimicrobial polymers may be used as a microbicidal coating, inter alia on hygiene items or in the medical sector, or also in surface coatings or protective paints.

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